



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

HB 6630, An Act Increasing Husky C Asset And Income Limits

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6630, An Act Increasing Husky C Asset And Income Limits**. CHA supports this bill.

Connecticut hospitals continue to meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and are now facing new challenges of treating sicker patients than they saw before the pandemic, with a dedicated but smaller workforce who are exemplary but exhausted. They are also experiencing significant financial hardships brought on by record inflation. Through it all, hospitals have been steadfast, providing high-quality care for everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay.

In this period of rapid growth in cost of living, it's important that we revisit income and asset limits that may be a barrier to accessing Medicaid and other state administered medical assistance programs. HB 6630 proposes to increase income and asset limits for medical assistance applicants and enrollees who are age sixty-five and older, have disabilities or are blind and may qualify for HUSKY C. A lack of coverage may lead individuals to delay care or forego care entirely leading to avoidable adverse health outcomes and in some cases emergency department visits or hospitalizations.

We strongly support the proposal to increase income and assets for applicants to the HUSKY C program.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.